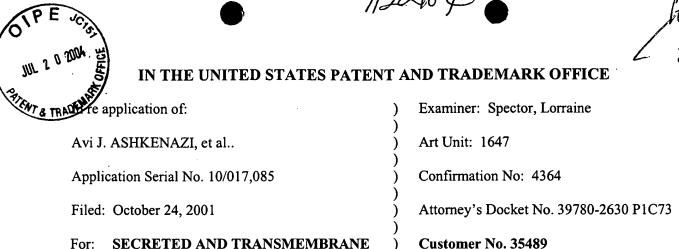
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Date Mailed: JULY 20, 2004

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on February 6, 2004, in connection with the above-identified patent application (Paper No./Mail Date 20040127), please enter the following amendments, and consider the following arguments. This response is timely filed requesting a Petition for Extension of Time for three months with necessary fees.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 9 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 15 of this paper.

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